

**SPRINGS MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**March 26, 2019**

Introductions and Official Oaths of Office conducted by Pat Gilardi: 6:25pm

Supervisor Susan Gorin welcomed the new Council and expressed support for its diversity. She thanked all the County Staff for their excellent work in developing the project, in particular Pat Gilardi and Liz Hamon. She also acknowledged the Supervisors in Contra Costa County who modeled community involvement. She gave recognition to the three volunteers who comprised the Selection Committee, and acknowledged the future potential of the Glen Ellen and Kenwood communities for their own Council. Supervisor Gorin conveyed her keen anticipation for what the new Council will accomplish.

Pat Gilardi explained the logistics of the Springs Community Hall: 6:30

1. Call to Order: 6:31pm  
Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Chair: Ryan Lely

Present: Maite Iturri, Omar Paz, Ellen Conlan, Avram Goldman, Iris Lombard, Raymond Willett

Alternates: Robyn Anderson, John Wheatley

2. **Public Comment.** Chair Lely reminded the new Council that they are receiving these comments but not commenting.  
Limited to items not appearing on the agenda

Gary Germano, 18850 Melvin Ave., cul de sac, one way in/out, Donald Ave. Handed out an info packet. Modification to Springs Specific boundary made approx. March 2012. Explained use of handouts relating to issue. Map A – boundaries prior to 2012. Map B – new leg from Verano to Donald. When this area was annexed in to Springs Plan, he said no one was notified of zoning changes to neighborhoods, and they are concerned about it staying a single family neighborhood. On page C1 EL Verano, Arnold Dr. to highway, map from SIT. Has lived here since 2001. C2 Google map of El Verano area, west of Hwy 12. Next Map BHS, Fetters, Aqua Caliente, from Sonoma Index Tribune. And a Google map 2. The area was previously known as Boyes Hot Springs but now called The Springs. Final Page O, Donald was annexed to Plan w/o notice. Said there were perhaps 8-12 meetings over the years of different groups. By accident a neighbor noticed a zoning change on her January 2019 permit record. Neighbors were not able to attend or participate in the meetings. Last page, 3 mixed use, before EIR review, the very last plan presented 8/20/2018, upped zoning to multifamily houses, R3. Reported there are 108 homes in this area, all have homes on lots except for one, and he and neighbors see

what has happened as a “land grab” because no one knew any of this was happening. Important to him that the Springs MAC be informed of all this.

Anna Pier, 405 Solano Ave. El Verano. Expressed appreciation for new Springs MAC and acknowledged the Springs Advisory Council for inspiration. Expressed it can be difficult for community voices to be represented even with meetings being held. Encouraged the Council to think of creative ways to make their work representative. Thanked them.

Seth Dolinsky, former President of Springs Community Hall, happy that the Community is being invited to this meeting, expressed his appreciation to new Council to address the Spring’s issues.

### 3. Springs Municipal Advisory Council Policies & Procedures Training

Introduced by Supervisor Gorin, presented by Liz Hamon and Pat Gilardi.

*Due to the extensive length of the slide presentation on these topics, these materials can be accessed at the County website.*



MAC Policies and Procedures Training\_.



Springs MAC - Attachment 5 - Policie



Springs MAC\_Bylaws\_(002).d



Sonoma County MAC Policies and Procedure

One Correction in presentation: Pat Gilardi noted a typo on slide/page - SVCAC tasks - “All proposed developments [should read] (use permits) . . .

Pat Gilardi and Chair Lely invited Council’s Questions.

Iris Lombard asked if a map was available to review. Pat Gilardi replied there was a map, but it was the wrong one.

Avram Goldman inquired about MAC duties, 3<sup>rd</sup> one down, ‘Get to know the County;’ how are they going to accomplish them? Pat Gilardi replied that they will work with Chair and Vice Chair to establish agendas, and talk with community. For example, something important the Council will probably hear about in items from community is

the topic of roads, expects it will be a top priority. She hopes Director of Transportation & Public Works will come out to explain how to work with them. Susan Gorin added she is working with everyone on road maintenance, intends to have TPW to discuss process, perhaps form a subcommittee with MAC within Springs, for one year or two, with at-large and community members involved, but can't do it all in one year. She recognized that all roads need to be repaved, but she also admitted the limitations. One previous meeting discussing roads was standing room only. Welcomes working with the MAC, hopes they can even have some fun.

Ellen Conlan wants to better understand overarching plan or goals for MAC to achieve; is there an accounting at end of year, similar to Contra Costa County, feels it would help MAC members to know what the top priorities are. And if part of responsibility is reaching out to communities, is there financial support or other County process to rely on materials? Pat Gilardi explained that the Council is funded by TOT. Mentioned contact with Jennifer Laroque from County Admin Office who was present. Pat added the Council will determine projects and priorities. If they want outreach materials this would be from same budget for all projects. Encouraged caution. Pat G mentioned that her email reflected concern for an increase of graffiti in community. Council may choose to create a sub-committee for a graffiti clean-up group. They might want funds for clean-up rather than funds for outreach. Council will learn to prioritize. She and Chair Lely discussed this earlier and have some ideas, but it will be up to Council. Jennifer L. added they are tracking goal setting to end of year. MAC will provide annual report for accounting with Supervisor Gorin.

Iris Lombard inquired if goal is to include whole community they need to spend money on translation for meetings. Pat G. replied that has been included in preliminary budget.

Chair Lely asked if all this info is on website. Pat G, yes, the website is robust. Please refer. Agendas and Minutes will be there.

Chair Lely asked about noticing of Council. Pat G. replied it is the same as SVCAC-i.e. advisory. So noticing is same. Agenda will be posted on door, website, agendas to media, 2 weeks in advance. But no budget to send mailers, e.g. the graffiti issue. Important to be judicious how funding is used.

Susan Gorin recommended that at the next meeting the Council agendaize their upcoming annual Mission, to identify strategic priorities. One might be – how to outreach to larger community re priorities. Acknowledged Anna Pier's public comment, same thing. Maybe Anna and other MAC members and alternates can lead a discussion to speak to larger community. Acknowledged Omar Paz had ideas to offer on community outreach. Invite community input how 4 villages can come together as one village.

Pat G. reminded that the media/newspaper is unpredictable on covering. SIT has done outstanding job of coverage on SVCAC. Have expressed interest in the new MAC. They

have covered the Springs Specific Plan numerous times. Anticipates this will continue, but not everyone reads the paper anymore. Need to use various methods to reach more people.

Avram Goldman suggested the free, community app *NextDoor* as a place for comments. He was surprised SIT did not have first MAC meeting in today's paper. Perhaps someone follow up to encourage coverage.

Ellen Conlan asked if people will be able to sign up for email notifications on the website?

Pat G. replied that doesn't exist today, but it's possible. Liz could refer to her distribution list.

Chair Lely suggested they use their email list.

#### **4. The Ralph M. Brown Act for Municipal Advisory Committees**

*Due to excessive length of document, the attachment could not be inserted here.*

*See website for contents. Summary notes follow:*

Presented by Linda Schiltgen, County Counsel office. Expressed gratitude to all, in particular Supervisor Gorin. Lives in 5<sup>th</sup> district and helping with other MACs. Resident of Sonoma County since 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Reported on history, legislatures' response, intent of Brown Act. When does it apply? Provided definitions of "meetings," "legislative body" and "open and public." Emphasized importance of Springs MAC in community, important for public to understand what they are considering and how broadly that extends.

Example: If Council wanted to discuss graffiti, could be an open public meeting with 4 members assigned with agenda. Or an Ad Hoc committee, less than a quorum. There are 7 MAC members, so 3 could form a sub-committee, which would be temporary for research, less formal, a way to efficiently conduct research and get information from community, bring it back and make recommendations in an open and public way, invite comments.

Or. If Council wanted to discuss roads, number for Ad Hoc would be 3 or less, could be an Alternate on a subcommittee.

Ellen Conlan curious if subgroup of 3, are they free to bring anyone back to public meeting, such as an authority or expert on a topic?

Linda S. would coordinate with Supervisor Gorin's office and County for their guidance as to who the experts would be to select.

Meetings definition: deliberations or actions by majority and a series of communications involving the members. Brown Act rules explained further

For example using email or text, like *NextDoor*, for posting meeting info. But if 4 or more of MAC people talk on *NextDoor*, that is a problem. Not open to everyone. Would be a Brown Act violation. But good to use *NextDoor* to publicize.

Chair Lely mentioned the SVCAC April 2018 meeting on cannabis dispensary that got heated, chambers had to be cleared, and he directed Commissioners not to discuss on break, as it was not in public view. A serious issue.

Pat G. described a recent situation in which she was asked for the email list of MAC people to be introduced, and she said no, we need to have our first training meeting. She had concern that 4 or more might be talking at a coffee shop about possible agenda items.

Ellen Conlan asked if this includes email and text. Linda Schiltgen, yes, both. Even though we want to get things done quickly, in CA and many other states, it's critical when making decisions that ultimately involve spending taxpayers' dollars, or making decisions that impact neighborhoods, critically important for all to attend. Government needs to be available for everyone to attend and voice disagreement. Has realized that community often uses Councils to complain but also to express gratitude.

Ellen Conlan inquired if MAC had its own event, was organized by a subcommittee, would everyone attend? Is that ok? Not doing business.

Linda S replied there are social exceptions, events open to the community, ceremonial events. If 4 MAC members are standing together, it's not a Brown Act violation, but Supervisor Gorin is aware of public perception - What are they talking about? A local favorite pet groomer or a family matter? Good to be aware.

Susan G. explained that the Mac is less formalized than the BOS, but legal rulings about what is discoverable in Brown Act are awe inspiring. Her personal emails could be requested by Freedom of Information Act, texts are discoverable, Facebook posts. Thanked them for choosing to be on Council, but encouraged awareness of social media, as they are official face of Springs MAC. They should be respectful of public opinion and conservative about issues being discussed by MAC.

Linda S. discussed Series of Communications. Example: Supervisor Gorin put pot holes on priority list. Calling Commissioner A to gather votes for a meeting would be an influence. Shouldn't get to meeting and already know what everyone thinks. Expected to listen to everyone. Heart of Brown Act is to not have everything done, but to pay attention and listen.

Presented explanation of "what is not a serial meeting?"

Linda's office doesn't represent MAC. Should call Supervisor Gorin first with questions on training. Linda could help coordinate but Supervisor is primary resource. Staff should not ask or inquire about how others will be voting. Supervisor can help coordinate other county staff for assistance.

"Not a meeting" defined. Ceremonial, social. Public conferences.

Social media defined. Be cautious. Law is developing.

Pat G. added when the Council gets an email, it looks like it's just to the individual, but has been sent blind copy [bcc] to avoid "reply all" and inadvertent violation of the Brown Act.

Notice and posting agendas further defined.

Items not on agenda defined. What is the big deal about this rule? If someone brought something up, how do they know if it's important? People need to understand the Council has its goals, not the time to do a back and forth.

Iris Lombard asked if people see something on agenda and are interested in but can't attend meeting, can they submit public comment?

Linda S., yes, put it in writing, would go through Supervisor Gorin's office.

Pat G. added that interested parties usually call her and she tells them to send in an email, then she will distribute blind copies to share with Council or other county departments, so they will have it in advance. Can be discussed at meeting, but not ahead of time.

Chair Lely mentioned that happens with the SVCAC, that people send public comments ahead, sometimes right before the meeting. Recommends Council check their emails right before meetings.

Iris Lombard asked if emailed Public Comment would then also be spoken at meeting.

Chair Lely, no. it's in Public Record even from personal email devices, no exceptions. If it's related to public business, everyone has the right to see it.

Linda S. concurred that if it's related to public business they have a right.

Linda S. defined Public Comment. Common to use 3 minute limit, treat everyone the same, mentioned there is a new law that requires double the time if translating.

Defined Brown Act violations: civil action, attorney's fees, criminal penalties.

Intentional deception.

Defined Public Records Act. State takes government transparency very seriously. There is no exemption for a public info request. Hopes no one has this happen.

If MAC member keeps records or minutes, keep them carefully and thoughtfully, due to right of public to access information. Encouraged caution, civil demeanor, including what is written. Advisory Council is not being reimbursed so not required to have record. Conflict of interest, code defined. Some other MAC members taking training course. Worthwhile to review.

Chair Lely called for Public Comment on item 4.

None.

Maite Iturri asked if there will be a translator for all future meetings.

Liz Hamon, yes, there will be a translator for every meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Mario C. asked if there are copies of agenda for public. He then went outside and took the agenda off the door. He was confused by training presentation; was it mostly Brown Act or Best Practices, important to clarify. Assumed that Facebook was not in existence when Brown Act began. He saw a lot of do's and don'ts in presentation, would like to see a training on what to do to be effective in getting people to meetings. Felt that many of the suggestions would discourage people from attending. Hopes people will follow up with things they are interested in, since they have rules explained now. Expressed appreciation.

Linda S. replied it was a mix, of bare minimum legal requirements, and then the Best Practices. The law is slow to catch up to all the new changes with social media, so they are asking - how do we recommend compliance with the law while waiting for opinions.

Pat G replied that extra copies of the agenda are not usually brought for the public; however it will always be online. So if public is looking online they can print from there.

Supervisor Gorin added that they don't usually bring extra copies, but it's a good suggestion, and would be better in Spanish and English. Asked how to make the Springs MAC meetings available in all languages and for all ethnicities, within reason. She invited Mario and others to help to make everyone feel welcome. Encouraged broad outreach efforts.

Pat G. restated that there will be a translator at every meeting and can do an agenda in English and Spanish. Believes By Laws and Procedures online are available in Spanish.

Ellen Conlan talked about access to meetings. The barrier in Springs is actually parking. She is part of Springs Community Alliance, and they are addressing parking and have made a difference. The Charter school, Maxwell Park, have problem of limited parking. Not sure of solution.

Pat G. suggested that be an agenda item for next time, make Council aware of items, can move somewhere else. Springs prefer this Hall. Mentioned that SVCAC will move to bigger venue when anticipating a large turnout. Can go to Vets. Bldg. There can be flexibility depending on the topic.

Supervisor Gorin has previously conversed with Ellen on parking issue. They chose this location because KSVY and Springs Community Hall invested in sound and projection system. Acknowledged importance of meeting. If meeting is larger, appropriate to move. Thanks to Seth Dolinsky and KSVY for investment.

Seth D. commented that there is a public parking lot a block away. In NY ten blocks is not a big deal to walk.

Iris Lombard loves the location because she is close enough to walk. Mentioned they had meetings at Alta Mira School when Springs Specific Plan was first being discussed. Nicer to have it here than at the Veterans Building.

Chair Lely closed discussion on agenda item #4's presentation.

## **5. Future Meeting Schedule**

Chair Lely asked what day the Council wanted to meet. And where? Will be passing a motion. Reminded all that City Council was on Mondays, SVCAC on Wednesdays.

Translator not available on Tuesdays.

Supervisor Gorin introduced an audience member, Chris Z. who offered to be an additional translator and is available on Tuesdays. Chair Lely expressed appreciation for Chris volunteering. Susan liked idea of having two translators, also mentioned she may not be at every MAC meeting. Liz Hamon will be primary staff support. Pat G is primary support for SVCAC on following Wednesday nights.

### **Public Comment/Discussion on Schedule**

Mario C. expressed appreciation to County Counsel and others for their work on the MAC. Recommended that if intention is to have translation, consider which days are best for community. Chair Lely described the process of choosing 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, which was made possible with the new volunteer translator, Chris. Mario C explained he was thinking of people who need translation. Chair Lely asked if Mario had a recommendation for a day. Mario C said he would talk to some community members and get back to Council.

Chris Zdenek, Melvin Ave. suggested that what day is not as important as how well it's posted and publicized. If the meetings are posted at watering holes as well as internet they will get more people.

After considerable discussion, Chair Lely recommended the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, and made a Motion to set Springs MAC to 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:30.

Ellen Conlan seconded.

First Springs MAC Motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Consideration of items for future agenda**

Chair Lely called for items, which will be reviewed by Executive Committee – Supervisor Gorin, Pat Gilardi, Chair Lely and Vice Chair Maite.

Vice Chair Maite Iturri mentioned she felt more confident now with training about do's and don'ts. Referred to Ellen C's previous comments, how can they come up with a statement of purpose for the group as to what they want to accomplish. Discussion?

Susan Gorin mentioned ideas for agenda suggestions, e. g. schedule department directors to make presentation to define their jobs. What does Director of Transportation Public Works do, or Parks and Recreation? Use these opportunities to define how County functions.

Chair Lely suggested a topic that had been mentioned frequently - how to make meetings better known to public? Also suggested from his experience as SVCAC Chair, that agendas generally work better with just two items. Not always but take into consideration the suggestion.

Ellen Conlan addressed timing of current initiatives in Springs. The Springs Specific Plan and incomplete sidewalks, which are long standing. Springs Specific Plan is imperative due to deadlines. Wants clarity on where it stands. SVCAC had response. Wants to be sure those comments are being addressed. She couldn't attend previous meeting and hasn't seen presentation. Would like everyone to see it. Also, the Springs Specific Plan, understand impact on economic conditions, as discussed at SVCAC and SCA.

Chair Lely mentioned there will probably be a joint meeting with SVCAC on Springs Specific Plan.

Pat G. added they don't have an exact date for that, as everything is in draft form; the Springs Specific Plan is not completed. Will probably be done in May or June. Expect joint meeting at that time of MAC and SVCAC. Will have County Planner available for presentation and discussion, and EIR consultant present as well.

Ellen Conlan asked if there will there be time to make adjustments.

Pat G., yes, that will be the time to do it. SSP is in EIR process now, they are looking at 4 alternatives, with 4<sup>th</sup> being most intense. EIR wants to look at all impacts. MAC input and directives will be needed.

Avram Goldman asked if they will get report ahead of time.

Pat G., yes, as soon as it's available; will be a lengthy document.

Avram G agreed with agenda items already mentioned and would like to include others. Would like PRMD to provide updates and tell them about projects along Sonoma Hwy i.e. the Ramen Shop project, Boyes Spring's Market project, the demolition of building by Ms. W. And later down the line an agenda item to create a central plaza community meeting place to nurture identity. Also pedestrian and bicycle projects to encourage walking and biking safely on Hwy 12. Would like to bring business owners in to address their concerns to MAC. Also how to engage community? Invite them in. And how to create more art and music in Springs for a cultural base, since there is strength in diversity. He wants to create a bright and lively community. Iris Lombard made an unofficial second motion to Avram's items. Her concern is whole area on map, not just Springs Specific Plan. Concerned about other upcoming projects on map. Has observed development processes take a long time - like the Noodle Shop. By the time the public notices, it's already been developed and money invested. Feels it's important to have better advance notice of projects, to discuss concerns with developers and also address the concerns and frustrations of public feeling under represented. She wants to talk up the MAC, spread the word far and wide and encourage the community to come to meetings.

Pat G. commented that land use planning goes through SVCAC. It is a Joint Powers Agreement between City and County. SVCAC does that early review process, before Traffic Study is done, before project is fleshed out, so that they can hear what the folks in the community think. There are representatives on the SVCAC who live in Springs; Chair Lely is one of them. They may choose to refer a project to MAC but the primary land use body is the SVCAC.

Chair Lely asked for further clarification from Supervisor Gorin on this.

Susan G. agreed to do so, but first encouraged the two Alternates present to feel part of the Council and offer their comments. A role for Springs Community Alliance has been in the past an opportunity for developers to present their ideas. Suggested that be done at MAC too, perhaps in a joint meeting with SCA. But reality is that SVCAC has the official Joint Powers of city of Sonoma and the County. Has been in operation for two decades and has geographical representation. They are the official review body, much to the new MACs frustration. This is why Chair Lely is liaison for SVCAC. Projects are referred to Pat G for study and she decides when they are ready to schedule. These studies have not been completed, are developing ideas, waiting to hear from SVCAC and the broader based community on projects. MAC and Springs Community Alliance could be included before the official presentation. Boyes Food Market had a couple of community presentations. Hopes to use this as a way to collectively view opportunities to discuss projects. Will be important for the Springs community; she encourages and welcomes these opportunities for discussions. Key will be how to let the community know that the MAC is happening.

Ellen Conlan mentioned that the Springs Community Alliance (SCA) was patiently waiting to see how to work with the MAC and also not overtax the community with coverage of the same topics. Will appreciate the new impact, they already have a large email list, and folks are aware of issues. They are ready to network. On another issue, the SCA had spoken with Planning Director on guidelines for Springs, whether he is willing to consider additional overlays or codes, and hopes that they are consistent. She wants to have this clear, in past there were problems.

Pat G. asked if that was with respect to Springs Specific Plan.

Ellen Conlan, yes, but beyond that and to Iris's point, we are talking about initiatives. Yes, the SSP because those are the guidelines that will be put in place, and she is concerned because those guidelines have been ignored in the past. Wants to compare with what other communities have done to insure this will happen.

Susan G. thanked Ellen for her comment but emphasized that guidelines are just guidelines and for a reason. They are not standards, not code, but interpretations, because the community and design evolves. So a guideline from two decades ago may not still have relevance. Susan G could offer a member of Design Review Board, who lives in Kenwood, to come to discuss with MAC, in conjunction with their view, which could be a discussion of development review process as it moves forward. Consider

this for use as a basic primer for development process as they look forward in the Springs.

Ellen Conlan wants to look at other communities to compare, perhaps beyond guidelines, to consider what the new look will be for all the new development. Planning Director had other alternatives and suggestions such as Rohnert Park's new development.

Pat G. agreed that a presentation from PRMD was a good idea, and also clarified there is a difference between a development and individual buildings. So if ten years down the road a development changes its look, it doesn't always go through design review. For example with RP housing development they must consider if there's a homeowners association, which could have problems, because individuals don't usually go through design review process. To clarify, great idea to have PRMD talk to them to learn what they look for in design standards. She believes there are design standards in Springs Specific Plan, and they will be able to access when the Plan comes forward. Chair Lely concurred there were design guidelines and standards in the SSP. Ellen Conlan suggested that the form based code be used, that this has been presented to the community; concept has been used in Sonoma Plaza, Rohnert Park, and Windsor. She would like a discussion on this specific topic.

Pat G. clarified the county would first have to choose to go that way but discussion is a good idea.

Chair Lely recognized this would entail a long discussion on this topic, and also that it will probably come up in the SSP discussion as well.

### **Public Comment**

Tom Conlan, Robinson Rd, wanted to summarize in response to discussion. He cautioned against combining SCA, SVCAC and MAC agendas in this early stage. Important to sustain distinct missions, as Supervisor Gorin also stated. He underscored this opinion, especially with respect to Springs Specific Plan. Combining might make sense if purpose is to expedite, but if they want maximum public input and maximum perspective, especially with the new body of the MAC, compared to the SVCAC & the SCA, it would be a good investment to maintain distinct missions.

He feels confused to have Ryan Lely as MAC chair, also as SVCAC Chair, for similar reasons, that it could cause role confusion. Mentions this just as a clarification for individuation of each body.

He appreciated Susan's comments about the Alternates, suggested rearranging hall seating for next time.

To the matter of form based codes: he is on Transportation Authority Citizen Advisory Commission. Yesterday heard a presentation from the CASA and MTA, a lively discussion. Have had several in Sonoma County. He heard that they are trying to streamline and make it easier for developers' housing projects, and is also a goal in SSP. Per Ellen's reference to form based code, feels it is best way to go to make it clear to developers what the community wants and where. And to stop the attacks on the

environmental laws. Feels that if we were clear about our planning goals we wouldn't have to misuse the environmental laws. Sierra Club strongly supports CEQA, but where is development concentrated.

Chris Z. agreed with Maite - let's ask "what's our purpose?" From there, a happy, healthy, wealthy community, what it looks like, water and air quality, good transportation, all else flows from that. Encourages that.

**Councilmembers Comments:**

Avram G. brought up an administrative item, in looking at annual calendar, noticed that the December 4<sup>th</sup> Tues is Christmas Eve.

Chair Lely explained the December meeting would then be canceled.

Omar Paz echoed support of Councilmembers' suggestions and ideas. Two things to bring up about how we educate ourselves: wants to have educational presentations, build connections with county, and along with development of purpose, be sure to include community and develop outreach. Also interested in getting to know each other; he was the one who sent email request for contact info. Hopes to have more networking options, and build outreach.

Jennifer Larocque mentioned that there is a Communication Policy section in the By Laws that is reviewed annually.

Chair Lely thanked everyone for comments and input. He has heard a number of items to consider, but feels the most important is a Statement of Purpose, based on the community's hunger for involvement. Offered two options: further contemplate the list, make no motion, create the agenda for next meeting through talking with Supervisor Gorin and listening to everyone there - Pat Gilardi, and Liz Hamon. Or make a motion? Open to recommendations.

John Wheatley inquired what the first option was.

Chair Lely replied the first was digesting the list and not making a motion, using it as a living document. Explained that he, Maite, Susan and staff would then create the agenda off the list.

Susan G. gave direction to Chair, that he and Vice Chair work with Supervisor's office to figure out the timeline for next 3-4 meetings, with some suggested topics. But she also really wanted to hear from them and in particular Omar. How can he and the other Councilmembers get to know each other better? Is there an exercise they want to schedule for next meeting? How to take some time to get to know each other and the community better. Does one or two of the topics for discussion rise to the top? Perhaps a Director they really want to hear from? Begin their educational journey? They can schedule time to discuss how to develop strategic priorities for the remainder of this year. They can ask how to get that outreach to the community, maybe not just here in

the Springs but special meetings too like at the Barking Dog or in El Verano. Requested guidance from Chair.

Councilmember commented that the solutions Susan discussed, the items like the Communications and Engagement Plan, that those are great ideas, but there's also some time based items that should be addressed in the Springs Specific Plan. He doesn't want to spend too much time on the introductory things. Asked Chair Lely for confirmation.

Chair Lely asked Pat G. for help here with SSP.

Pat G. explained she will hear from planner when things are ready, will then reach out to Chair and Vice-Chair, and present the timeline. Items may need to be adjusted, for example, if PRMD was scheduled for June, then she finds the Springs Spec Plan is ready at the same time, then they bump PRMD, bring in Springs Specific Plan, because that would have higher priority. Chair Lely acknowledged this clarification.

Avram G. added with that in mind, there was the presentation from people in Donald neighborhood, which he attended. Ellen and Chair Lely were there. It was packed, had good community engagement, maybe there should be a spot for them to explain their position more thoroughly, for those who weren't at the meeting?

Susan G. thanked John W. for organizing a neighbor meeting with Permit Sonoma, to bring forward their interests in the Plan. They were clear at meeting they were not anti-growth, were surprised at how neighborhood was included in SSPlan. Good opportunity to exchange views. She doesn't think they need to talk to MAC, do need to talk to Permit Sonoma, to develop a recommendation, to incorporate for EIR discussion. She thinks there may be a need for community meeting for final SS Plan before it goes to SVCAC for official comments. She is not sure, needs to talk with the Planner. Susan clarified that the role of MAC is not development review, but could have a role in community meeting. She recognizes this is unsatisfactory to MAC, but they are different from other CA Macs, because of the existing SVCAC that has development review authority. She emphasized that she hears their interest. Asked if Avram is on CAT? Avram, no. Acknowledged that Cathy Wade is. And Chair Lely. Maybe there will be a separate community meeting. She appreciates their concerns and shares their frustration.

Avram G. remarked that the Donald neighbors were surprised they were considered in the Springs because they don't see themselves that way. Asked Susan G. if they are part of MAC or something different? He knows they have another name.

Chair Lely interjected to ask if it was appropriate to discuss this since it's not on agenda.

Pat G., no. Can talk about it on the next agenda and ask for update then. Mentioned there are three other development projects they want updates on.

Ellen Conlan asked about the picking and choosing for the next agenda. What are priorities for Springs MAC, how can goals be realized? Which aspects of Springs MAC interest them most as MAC representatives, and how to achieve those goals? How do we contribute?

Chair Lely, per Susan's suggestion, stated that this will all be woven into future agendas. He will give direction to County Staff that the focus on next meeting be about a Statement of Purpose, what they will produce, as well as developing a timeline for those county departments. And also to create a Communication Development Plan. So there will be no motion, just directions given.

Iris Lombard commented that in regards to community involvement, this Sunday is the Loteria, aka bingo, pot luck at Grange Hall. It is an opportunity to get together.

Pat G. requested all new Councilmembers turn in their signed Oaths of Office to her.

## **7. Meeting adjourned unanimously at 8:47pm.**

*Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the MAC after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors' Office located at 575 Administration Drive, Room 100-A1, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours.*

Web Links:

County of Sonoma: [www.sonoma-county.org](http://www.sonoma-county.org) select Boards and Commissions, Springs Municipal Advisory Council (MAC)

City of Sonoma: [www.sonomacity.org](http://www.sonomacity.org) select Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Council (SVCAC)